

Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 2, line 1 with the following amended paragraph:

Since the market trend of ethanolamine has been changed in recent years, the production balance ~~by~~ between diethanolamine and triethanolamine manufactured from the aqueous ammonia process can no longer correspond with the change. To be specific, the demand for diethanolamine, which is used as the raw material for herbicide, is going up greatly, whereas the demand for triethanolamine is reducing on account of the problem of toxicity. To adjust the balance between these demands, a new process ~~has been appeared instead of~~ other than the aqueous ammonia process for the production of ethanolamine has been developed.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 2, line 16 with the following amended paragraph:

As a way of improving reducing coloration in triethanolamine ~~in coloration~~, a process has been proposed which ~~consists in~~ includes heat-treating triethanolamine ~~under the condition of shutting off in the absence of oxygen but~~ in the presence of an inorganic compound such as silicon and aluminum, and subsequently distilling the resultant product (JP-B-05-8693).

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 3, line 9 with the following amended paragraph:

In accordance with the aqueous ammonia process, a high quality triethanolamine can be obtained by finely dividing carefully separating the distillation fractions of distillation. However, triethanolamine excellent in hue has been produced only in a low yield.